

SUNSHINE COLUMN

NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL SUNSHINE SOCIETY.
Mrs. J. M. RANSIER, State President, Hendersonville, N. C.

MRS. RANSIER'S LETTER.

Miscellaneous Sunny Suggestions from Sunshine Headquarters.

What's the true test of living?
A life that's spent in giving.
What's death without awaking?
A life that's spent in taking.

When the sunbeams cheer thy way,
Do they ask thee to repay?
When the bright flowers paint the sword,
Do they do it for reward?
When the bird sings clear and long,
Does he want thanks for his song?

Give talent, thought and voice
To bid God's world rejoice.
Give work and love and will,
Give golden time and skill.
Pour freely out thy whole,
Thyself, thy very soul,
To bless thy fellow-men,
Nor ask for aught again.
And, as thou giv'st thy very store
Shall grow, not less, but more.
—Alice Ring.

There are people in this world who would dearly love to be liberal if it did not cost anything. But when it comes to practicing a little self-denial or doing anything that inconveniences themselves they immediately "beg to be excused." Perhaps it is just that they are asked to do something that they don't like to do. That is sufficient reason in their mind, for a refusal. Or perhaps it is something to be done or said that might draw the eyes of the world (at least as much of it as is present) to them and unpleasant criticisms would follow.

I remember one time I myself did not do a sunshine act because it would have made me conspicuous to the group of onlookers. I shall never cease to regret it.

The man-fearing spirit should be exterminated from our make-up; if we have any of it, let's begin our extermination right away. We all have something we can give to help our fellow man. We all have something we can pass on to help make the old world brighter.

GIVE WHAT YOU HAVE

One day, on the steps of one of the public buildings of Florence, Italy, an old disabled soldier sat playing a violin. By his side stood a faithful dog. In the mouth of the dog was the old veteran's hat.

Now and then a passer by would drop in a coin. A gentleman, passing, stopped and looked at the picture. He stepped up and asked for the violin, tuned it, and began to play.

The sight of a well-dressed man playing a violin in such a public place, and with such association, attracted the passers by and they stopped.

The music was so charming that they stood enchanted while the number of contributions largely increased. The hat became so heavy that the dog growled, so it was emptied to be filled again. The company grew until a crowd was gathered.

The performer played one of the national airs, handed the violin back to the owner and quietly withdrew.

One of the company said, "This is Amard Bucher, the world renowned violinist. He did this for charity; let us follow his example."

Mr. Bucher did not give a penny, but he gave something better—his ability. If you cannot give money to help spread sunshine, give all the ability God has given you, and at least send your name in for our Sunshine books.

"If you can sit down at set of sun,
And count the acts that you have done;

And counting find
One self-denying act, one word
That eased the heart of him who heard;

One glance most kind,
That fell like sunshine where it went,
Then you may count that day well spent.

But if through all the livelong day
You've cheered no heart by yea or nay;

If through it all
You've nothing done that you can trace,
That brought the sunshine to one face;

No act most small,
That helped some soul, and nothing cost,
Then count that day as worse than lost."

Every farmer in your neighborhood ought to take advantage of our 15 cent trial offer till January 1st.

"I believe in the sacredness of the human body, this transient dwelling-place of a living soul, and so I deem it the duty of every man and woman to keep his or her body beautiful through right thinking and right living."—P. Gerhardt.

If one admires the patience, gentleness, sweetness and unfailing energy of another; if he finds himself renewed and invigorated and inspired by such contact—why does he not himself so live that he may bring the same renewal and inspiration to others?—Lilian Whiting.

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